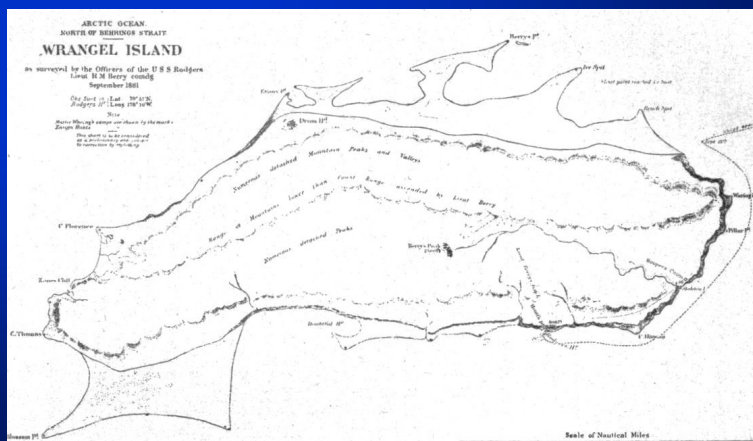


San Diego DX Club Bulletin

October 2015



Wrangel Island (IOTA: AS027) was declared a *zapovednik*—a federally managed nature sanctuary—in 1976, and it remains one of Russia's coldest, remotest pieces of protected wilderness. The 2,900-square-mile island lying astride the 180th meridian just might be the Galápagos of the far north. It was a separate entity on the DXCC Country List until September 1, 1960.



OCTOBER PROGRAM

Navassa Island

John Miller, K6MM: The K1N Navassa Island operation

MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,
San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988

A Word from the Prez

2

VP Report

3

Secretary/Treasurer Rpt

4

"TOP 10"

5

From the Editor

6



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A Word from the Prez . . .

John Vissat, NA6L



I hope that everyone is having a wonderful, although South Florida (hot and humid) type of extended summer. I'd guess we will go right to alternating Santa Ana and rainy conditions next.

With the SFI conditions hitting bottom I'm happy to report that DX is still alive and well.

The low bands are thriving and the two latest DXpeditions TX3X and V73D have been worked by many members on bands from 10 meters to 160 meters. I do understand working 6000 miles away on the lower bands, but good signals on 10/12m with an SFI of 80? Ah, the magic of HAM radio (and the Pacific Ocean).

Speaking of the Pacific, this morning at SR I had a very good copy on VK6IR from Western Australia (on the Indian Ocean) on 160 meters using JT65 (I have a very lame 160 meter antenna up). It is the magic of HAM radio, the Pacific Ocean, the Tasman Sea and the OTHER GUY's fantastic station!

Some other good DX that has been on during the last several weeks: S79SP, Z21MG, T2GC, OJØDX and 3DAØTM.

Don't despair, the bands are still alive especially if you use the JT modes (-;

We need your input regarding our Club's Mission Statement and a section from our Constitution (Article 1 Name and Purpose, read Section two). Please read the highlighted paragraphs below and bring your thoughts about how we are doing at following our Mission Statement/Purpose as a club, and what we are doing as individual members to support these goals to the meeting next week. I would love to hear what we can do better as a club do better as members and also hear about what we are doing well. If you can't make the meeting on the 28th of this month please feel free to send me an email -- I'm good on QRZ.com

SAN DIEGO DX CLUB, Inc

CONSTITUTION (Adopted September 23, 2009)

ARTICLE I - Name and Purpose

Section 1 This organization shall be known as the San Diego DX CLUB, Inc. This corporation is a California nonprofit mutual benefit corporation.

Section 2 The purpose of this organization is to bring together radio amateurs interested in DX communication techniques and good operating practices; competition; to enhance the DXCC totals of the members; to promote good sportsmanship and fellowship among all DXers; and what ever else necessary to protect and promote member's ability to work DX.

A Word from the Prez (cont'd) . .

Our Mission

The San Diego DX Club was organized for the purpose of facilitating exchange of information and general cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, to further participate in Amateur Radio contest activities, to take appropriate action on legislative matters pertaining to Amateur Radio and to conduct club programs and activities so as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio.

Regards,

John, **NA6L**

Vice President Report

Howard, W6HDG

I hope you are all looking forward to the Navassa Island DXpedition talk on October 28, 2015 as much as I am. John Miller K6MM from San Jose was part of the Navassa team and will be our very special guest. Many of you know John since he is a Board Member of the Northern California DX Foundation and Co-chair for the 2011, 2013 and 2015 International DX Convention in Visalia. John was the Banquet Speaker at last weekend's Pacificon Convention discussing the Wake Island DXpedition, so he has been very busy!

Feel free to invite a new potential member to attend the Navassa talk. And speaking of new members, I will be handing out some new member recruitment brochures at the next meeting. I think it is time that we start a new membership drive as we have lost more members than we have gained since I joined the club 3 years ago. Any and all new member recruitment ideas are welcomed.

If you haven't already done so, please put the Annual Holiday Party, December 6 from Noon-3PM on your calendar. This will once again be held at Fiddlers Green Restaurant on Shelter Island. More details as the date approaches, but we already have terrific prizes donated by Heil Sound, DX Engineering, HRO and The DX Store! Believe me, you won't want to miss this event!

So see you Wednesday October 28 at the Sizzler. Come on time since the speaker will be presenting BEFORE the roundtable discussion as he has to catch a flight back to San Jose that evening.

73 and Gud DX

Howard, W6HDG

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Ellen, N6UWW



San Diego DX Club October 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:34PM by John, NA6L, at the Sizzler Restaurant. He thanked Howard - W6HDG for his energetic pursuit of quality speakers and interesting programs. He also thanked Ellen - N6UWW for her frugality as Treasurer, Bob - K9RHY for his continued efforts at publishing a quality newsletter, John - K6AM for his guidance keeping us true to our By-Laws and Arnie - W7BIA for maintaining the website & yahoo group and the countless others whose contributions to the Club keep us going. John - NA6L told those in attendance about his recent trip to ARRL HQ. He introduced Dr. Ron Flick - K6REF. John - K6AM read the Top Ten Confirmed on SSB.

Visitors – Tom - K7YMG

Old Business – John - NA6L met w/ the ARRL scholarship program chair while visiting ARRL HQ.

New Business – John - K6MM will be the speaker for our October Meeting. John - NA6L and Miguel - KJ6YXI offered to share the expense of K6MM's travel expenses. Without prompting from any Board members, a motion was made & unanimously passed and, in a precedent setting and EXCEPTIONAL manner, the Club voted to finance his airfare (\$200) in order that we might hear his talk on the K1N Navassa DXpedition.

It's not too early to start thinking about Visalia. Our Club is responsible for staffing the Registration Desk and a sign-up sheet was circulated to fill volunteer slots. John, K6AM, will be the Master of Ceremonies again.

Please remember to put December 6 (lunch) on your calendar for the annual Holiday Party. SDDXC Vice-President Howard, W6HDG, has already begun collecting door prizes.

A Roundtable discussion followed the Business Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Statement Balance 9/30/2015 \$6469.55

Ellen, N6UWW

THE SDDXC TOP 10 (EXPANDED VERSION)

By John, K6AM

CURRENT COUNTRIES CONFIRMED ON PHONE

10/15	10/14	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG	10/15	10/14	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YI	340	359	359	-	11.	9.	K6ZH	328	343	344	-6
2.	2.	N6CW	340	349	349	-	12.	12.	K5OA	326	344	345	-
3.	3.	K6AM	340	349	349	-	13.	14.	K0XB	326	333	334	+4
4.	4.	K9RHY	339	350	350	-	14.	15.	N6XT	319	325	333	-
5.	5.	K6GAK	338	365	365	-	15.	17.	WN6K	318	327	339	+4
6.	6.	W6YOO	338	347	347	-	16.	18.	N6VS	311	315	319	+7
7.	7.	NN6K	337	339	339	-	17.	20.	WB6BFG 301	303	304	+12	
8.	8.	NORR	336	357	357	-	18.	19.	NG6Z	291	292	295	-
9.	11.	WA6MHZ335	335	349	+6		19.	-	W6GAK 289	290	290		NEW
10.	10.	W6YA	332	?	?	-	20.	-	NA6L	284	285	297	NEW

We're lookin' at the top 20 in this category to accommodate the larger number of entries. The top 10 stays rock stable with the notable exception of Pat, WA6MHZ who finally got his records updated to move into the top ten. Lots of guys in the right column making good progress with W6GAK and NA6L making their first appearance. George, W6ZZ (SK) left us this past year with a final total of 323. Send me your updates when those cards come in so you won't get left in the dust. There's still plenty of room for more shakeup in the second ten, so you guys get out there and have some fun.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, CW, 10/40M and 80/20M. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

CHECK YOUR LOGS

It's time once again to recognize those of you who have made outstanding DX achievements during the year. Please check your logs and let me know if you worked your 331st current country or more than 20 all time new countries during 2015. Send your totals to k6am at arrl dot net.

John, K6AM

From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY

Much of my information about Wrangel Island comes from a beautiful, richly-illustrated volume titled: "Wrangel Island, the Northernmost Reserve" printed in Moscow and presented to me as a gift by Yuri Retin, UA9YE. Wrangel is a beautiful but barren place.



On August 20, 1924, the crew of the Russian gun boat "Red October" hoisted the Soviet flag on Wrangel Island for the first time. Responsible for initial development of the island was the Soviet pioneer G. A. Ushakov. His settlement, established in 1926, included the first meteorological station on the island. This group also established regular communication with the outside world. Prior to the arrival of Ushakov, the island's only inhabitants were native Eskimos and Chukchis. The natives and settlers share the island with polar bears, walrus, musk ox, polar foxes and reindeer herds.

Some time before WW2 and prior to 1939, Wrangel Island was added to the ARRL DXCC Country List. From the limited resources I have been able to access, the addition of Wrangel Island (UA0K) to the DXCC Countries list looks very similar to the addition of Scarborough Reef. Purely political.

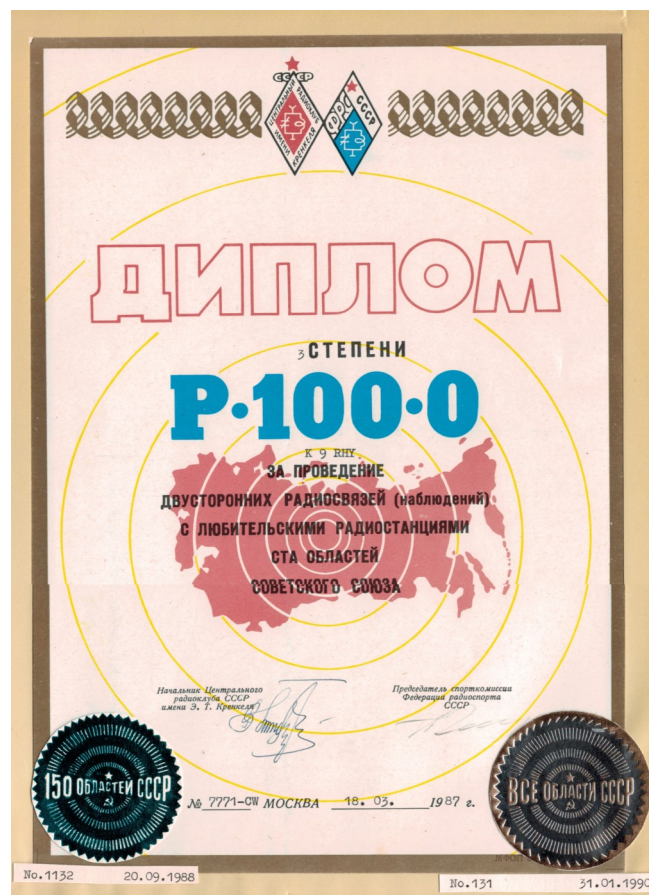
Wrangel Island was removed from the ARRL DXCC list on September 1, 1960. To the best of my knowledge, no one ever earned credit for Wrangel Island as a DXCC entity.

Now fast forward to the 1980's.

In the early 1980's, when the Soviet Union was still the "Soviet Union", a group of local DXers in the Chicago area (K9RHY included) decided that it would be fun to team up and chase one of the more challenging awards then available: The Russian "P100", awarded for working (and confirming) 100 Oblasts (administrative districts or regions) of the republics of the Soviet Union. There were two endorsements available: 150 Oblasts and "All Oblasts".

At the time we set out to work Oblasts, the USSR Republics were: Armenia (UG, now EK), Belarus (UC, now EU), Georgia (UF, now 4L), Kazakhstan (UL, now UN), Kyrgyzstan (UM, now EX), Russia (then and now UA 1-0), Tajikistan (UJ, now EY), Turkmenistan (UH, now EZ), Ukraine (UB, now UR) and Uzbekistan (UI, now UK).

All-in, I recollect that there were a total of close to 300 Oblasts, all having some ham activity. Most operators were residents, but there were occasional "Oblast DXpeditions" to unpopulated (or very thinly populated) regions.



I earned the basic award (#1132) on September 20, 1988 and the "All Oblast" endorsement (#131) on January 31, 1990.

Wrangel Island, as an IOTA counter (AS027) was in the East Arctic Oblast #139. I needed that one for my All Oblast award and was on the lookout for an operation from there. On March 16, 1986, I worked (and subsequently confirmed) UA0KBD who was operating from Wrangel Island, AS027. This was before my interest in IOTA became acute, but I retained the QSL card and I am glad I did. IOTA AS027 is claimed by only 16.5% of IOTA hunters, so it is relatively rare.

If Wrangel Island is ever added back to the ARRL DXCC list, (fat chance!), I'm ready.

73, Bob, K9RHY